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recorded barometric readings having been placed in my hands; but fortunately, scarcely any ill effect arose from this circumstance, as I found subsequently from an examination of some observations of the temperature of the boiling point of water made during the route, that my assumed readings differed very little from the truth.

From the mean of a series of sextant observations made at Kazé by Capt. Speke, in 1861, February 28, at 20h. 25m. 34s. local time, it was found that the angular distance at that time between the Sun and Moon, when cleared from refraction and parallax, was $123^{\circ} 10' 28''$ corrected, and $123^{\circ} 11' 4''$ uncorrected. These values give for longitude :—

		h. m. s.	$^{\circ}$ $'$ $''$
Corrected ..	.. .. ..	2 12 4	$33^{\circ} 1' 0''$ E.
Uncorrected ..	.. .. ..	2 13 8	$33^{\circ} 17' 0''$
Difference ..	.. .. ..	0 1 4	$0^{\circ} 16' 0''$

Again, in 1862, December 12, at Faloro, at 20h. 37m. 27s. local time, the angular distance between the Sun and Moon was found to be $103^{\circ} 39' 1''$ corrected, and $103^{\circ} 39' 25''$ uncorrected; the resulting values for longitude being :—

		h. m. s.	$^{\circ}$ $'$ $''$
Corrected ..	.. .. ..	2 7 25	$31^{\circ} 51' 15''$ E.
Uncorrected ..	.. .. ..	2 8 15	$32^{\circ} 3' 45''$
Difference ..	.. .. ..	0 0 50	$0^{\circ} 12' 30''$

I think these differences are sufficiently important to attract the attention of those who may in future be called upon to make or reduce similar astronomical observations for geographical purposes. They also justify me in laying the subject before the Society. I would, therefore, most strongly recommend that future travellers should be specially instructed to record, not only the readings of the chronometer and sextant, but also the readings of the barometer and thermometer *at least once* during each series of observations. If they will faithfully do this, they will greatly relieve the mind of the computer, and also (which is of more consequence) increase the value of their observations two-fold.

2. Gold Fields in Queensland. Extract from a Despatch from SIR GEORGE BOWEN to the DUKE of NEWCASTLE.

Communicated by the COLONIAL OFFICE.

“Two Gold Fields have been recently ‘proclaimed’ in this colony. One of them is about 20 miles inland from the town of Gladstone; and the other is on the Peak Downs, about 250 miles north-west of Rockhampton. A large number of persons have already congregated at these two localities, and a considerable quantity of gold has been procured. The discovery of a new Gold Field in Australia no longer causes the general excitement of ten years ago. Gold has also been recently discovered near Dalgai on the Darling Downs, and at some other places. A rich copper-mine is being worked by a Company close to the Gold Field on the Peak Downs. It was from the first foretold that the increase of our population would be sure to lead to the development of our mineral resources.”
